

Appl. No. 09/724,744
Amdt. Dated 7/16/06
Response following RCE filed on May 26, 2006

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Cancelled)
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Cancelled)
22. (Cancelled)
23. (Cancelled)
24. (Cancelled)
25. (Cancelled)

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26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) A method of facilitating a transfer of a first interest in a patent asset between first and second parties, the method comprising:

receiving, at a computer system of the first party off of an internet-type communications link, first information concerning the patent asset, wherein the first information includes at least one of:

a number identifying the patent asset, a filing date, an issue date, expiration information, a title, an inventor name, ownership information, descriptive information concerning a technical subject matter of the patent asset, product information regarding a product that is within a scope of the patent asset, and market information regarding a market to which the patent asset pertains;

receiving second information regarding an extent of the first interest in the patent asset;

providing a proposed agreement ~~onto the internet~~ regarding the transfer of the first interest in the patent asset between the first party and the second party, wherein the proposed agreement is provided by the first party; and

transferring the first interest in the patent asset from one of the first party and the second party to the other of the first party and the second party by concluding a first one of the proposed agreement and a modified version of the proposed agreement between the first party and the second party.

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36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the proposed agreement is provided onto the internet, and wherein the patent asset includes at least one of a patent and a pending patent application.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising; performing processing to evaluate of at least one of the first and second information, wherein the processing allows for a determination concerning at least one of a financial value of the patent asset, a technological scope of the patent asset, a ~~market/product~~ product coverage of the patent asset, a market for products covered by the patent asset, an ownership/possessory status of the patent asset, a validity status of the patent asset, and whether there have been one or more past inquiries concerning the patent asset.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the first interest is transferred from the first party to the second party, and further comprising:

transferring at least one of the first interest and a second interest in the patent asset from a third party to the first party by concluding a second agreement between the first party and the third party, wherein the second interest at least one of encompasses and is identical to the first interest.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the second information includes at least one of: an indication of whether the second party wishes to fully purchase the patent asset; an indication of whether the second party wishes to fully sell the patent asset; an indication of whether the second party wishes to license the patent asset; an indication of whether the second party wishes to at least one of grant and receive an exclusive license to the patent asset; an indication of whether the second party wishes to at least one of grant and receive a nonexclusive license to the patent asset; an indication of a time period during which the second party wishes to license the patent

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asset; an indication of a geographical region with respect to which the second party wishes to license the patent asset; an indication of whether there are limitations on sublicensing of the patent asset; an indication of whether there is a field of use restriction in relation to licensing of the patent asset; an indication of a royalty rate pertinent to licensing of the patent asset; and an indication confirming ownership of the patent asset.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (New) An internet-based method of executing a transaction involving a transfer of an interest in an intellectual property asset between a first party and a second party, the method comprising:

(a) receiving at a computer system of the first party, from the second party via the internet, first information regarding a nature of the intellectual property asset;

(b) performing processing in order to evaluate whether the intellectual property asset is at least one of desirable to the first party and available for transfer by the first party, wherein the processing is performed at least partly by way of the computer system of the first party and in response to the receiving of the first information, and wherein the processing involves other than merely a selection of a price corresponding to the intellectual property asset;

(c) receiving at the computer system, from the second party via the internet, second information regarding an extent of the interest in the intellectual property asset that is at least one of available for transfer from the second party to the first party and desired by the second party;

(d) providing a proposed agreement regarding the transfer of the interest in the intellectual property asset between the first party and the second party, wherein the proposed agreement is generated at least in part based upon the second information; and

(e) communicating between the first and second parties an indication of an acceptance of at least one of the proposed agreement and a modified version of the proposed agreement,

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whereby the transaction involving the transfer of the interest in the intellectual property asset between the first and second parties is executed.

45. (New) The internet-based method of claim 44, wherein the processing is to evaluate whether the intellectual property asset is desirable to the first party, and wherein the processing includes at least one of:

- (1) performing a financial valuation of the intellectual property asset;
- (2) checking at least one of an ownership status of the intellectual property asset and a validity status of the intellectual property asset; and
- (3) assessing whether the intellectual property asset is potentially of interest to one or more third parties based upon a review of at least one past inquiry.

46. (New) The internet-based method of claim 45, wherein the processing includes performing the financial valuation, and wherein the financial valuation includes further at least one of:

- (i) analyzing a technology relating to the intellectual property asset;
- (ii) analyzing a product relating to the intellectual property asset; and
- (iii) analyzing a market for the product relating to the intellectual property asset.

47. (New) The internet-based method of claim 45, wherein the processing operation includes at least two of (1) – (3), and wherein the intellectual property asset is at least one of patent, a pending patent application, an invention, a trademark, a trade secret and a copyright.

48. (New) The internet-based method of claim 44, wherein the processing is to evaluate whether the intellectual property asset is desirable to the first party, and wherein the processing includes at least one of:

- (i) analyzing a technology relating to the intellectual property asset;
- (ii) analyzing a product relating to the intellectual property asset; and
- (iii) analyzing a market for the product relating to the intellectual property asset.

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49. (New) The internet-based method of claim 44, wherein the processing is to evaluate whether the intellectual property asset is desirable to the first party, wherein the proposed agreement is provided via the internet, and further comprising:

receiving at the computer system, from the internet, at least one of the first information and third information regarding the nature of the intellectual property asset;

providing an additional proposed agreement onto the internet regarding an additional transfer of at least one of the interest in the intellectual property asset and an additional interest in the intellectual property asset; and

receiving an indication of acceptance of at least one of the additional proposed agreement and a modified version of the additional proposed agreement by a third party,

whereby an additional transaction involving the intellectual property asset is executed between the first and third parties, so that the third party obtains the at least one of the interest and the additional interest in the intellectual property asset from the first party.

50. (New) The internet-based method of claim 44, wherein the processing is to evaluate whether the intellectual property asset is available for transfer by the first party, and wherein the processing includes at least one of :

(1) checking an ownership status of the first intellectual property asset;

(2) reviewing secondary information concerning at least one additional interaction with a third party in which the first party has been involved; and

(3) attempting to conduct an acquisition of the intellectual property asset if it is determined based upon the processing that the intellectual property asset is not already owned by or licensed to the first party.

51. (New) The internet-based method of claim 44, wherein the processing is to evaluate whether the intellectual property asset is available for transfer by the first party, wherein the proposed agreement is provided via the internet, and further comprising:

receiving at the computer system, from the internet, at least one of the first information and third information regarding the nature of the intellectual property asset;

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providing an additional proposed agreement onto the internet regarding an additional transfer of at least one of the interest in the intellectual property asset and an additional interest in the intellectual property asset; and

receiving an indication of acceptance of at least one of the additional proposed agreement and a modified version of additional proposed agreement by a third party,

whereby an additional transaction involving the intellectual property asset is executed between the first and third parties, so that the first party obtains the interest in the intellectual property asset that is subsequently transferred to the second party.

52. (New) The internet-based method of claim 44, wherein the intellectual property asset is a patent, and wherein the proposed agreement is provided by the first party.

53. (New) The internet-based method of claim 52, wherein the first information regarding the patent includes at least one of a patent number, a filing date of the patent, a title of the patent, an issue date of the patent, patent expiration information, an inventor listed on the patent, patent ownership information, a technical subject matter of the patent, product information regarding a product within a scope of the patent, and a market with respect to which the patent is applicable.

54. (New) The internet-based method of claim 52, wherein the second information includes at least one of: an indication of whether the second party wishes to fully purchase the patent; an indication of whether the second party wishes to fully sell the patent; an indication of whether the second party wishes to license the patent; an indication of whether the second party wishes to at least one of receive and provide an exclusive license to the patent; an indication of whether the second party wishes to at least one of receive and provide a nonexclusive license to the patent; an indication of a time period during which the second party wishes to license the patent; an indication of a geographical region with respect to which the second party wishes to license the patent; an indication of whether there are limitations on sublicensing of the patent by at least one of the first party and the second party; an indication of whether there is a field of use restriction in relation to licensing of the patent; an indication of a royalty rate pertinent to

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licensing of the patent; and an indication confirming ownership of the property asset by at least one of the first party and the second party.

55. (New) The internet-based method of claim 44, further comprising at least one of:
receiving at the computer system, via the internet, third information regarding identification information identifying the second party; and
receiving at the computer system, via the internet, fourth information regarding a bid price for the interest in the intellectual property asset.

56. (New) An internet-based method of executing a transaction involving a transfer of an interest in an intellectual property asset to a first party from a second party, the method comprising:

(a) receiving at a computer system of the first party, from the second party via the internet, first information regarding a nature of the intellectual property asset;

(b) performing a valuation analysis to ascertain a value of the intellectual property asset, wherein the valuation analysis is performed at least partly in response to the receiving of the first information;

(c) receiving at the computer system, from the second party via the internet, second information regarding an extent of the interest in the intellectual property asset that is available for transfer from the second party to the first party;

(d) providing a proposed agreement regarding the transfer of the interest in the intellectual property asset to the first party from the second party, wherein the proposed agreement is provided onto the internet and is generated at least in part based upon the second information; and

(e) communicating between the first and second parties an indication of an acceptance of at least one of the proposed agreement and a modified version of the proposed agreement,

whereby the transaction involving the transfer of the interest in the intellectual property asset to the first party from the second party is executed.

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57. (New) The internet-based method of claim 56, wherein the valuation analysis includes at least one of:

- (i) checking an ownership status of the intellectual property asset;
- (ii) analyzing a technology relating to the intellectual property asset;
- (iii) analyzing a product covered by the intellectual property asset;
- (iv) analyzing a market for the product covered by the intellectual property asset;

and

(v) assessing whether the intellectual property asset is potentially of interest to one or more third parties based upon a review of at least one past inquiry.

58. (New) The internet-based method of claim 56, and further comprising:

receiving at the computer system, from the internet, at least one of the first information and third information regarding the nature of the intellectual property asset;

providing an additional proposed agreement onto the internet regarding an additional transfer of at least one of the interest in the intellectual property asset and an additional interest in the intellectual property asset; and

receiving an indication of acceptance of at least one of the additional proposed agreement and a modified version of the additional proposed agreement by a third party,

whereby an additional transaction involving the intellectual property asset is executed between the first and third parties, so that the third party obtains the at least one interest and additional interest in the intellectual property asset from the first party.